

MORE INFO

- [Environmental Protection Agency](#)
- [City of Abilene Environmental Recycling Center](#)
- [City of Abilene - Waste Disposal Information](#)
- [Texas 8-1-1 Call Before You Dig](#)
- [Texas Commission on Environmental Quality](#)
- [National Municipal Stormwater Alliance](#)
- [National Assoc. of Clean Water Agencies](#)
- [Texas Dept. of Agriculture](#)



CONTACT US



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www.abilenestormwater.com



LANDSCAPING

Save Our Waterways
Clean Water, Healthy Life

Stormwater Services Division

STORMWATER PROTECTION

Stormwater is rainwater and snow or ice melt. When stormwater flows across parking lots and streets, it can pick up pollutants that empty directly into our creeks and lakes through Abilene's storm drain system. Pollutants entering these drains flow untreated to the water bodies that we use for drinking water, swimming and fishing.

Best management practices (BMPs) are specific steps to prevent stormwater pollution as a result of day-to-day activities. All employees must make every effort to keep pollutants from going down the storm drain by putting the following BMPs into practice.

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

- Keep outdoor areas free from trash, dirt, litter and debris.
- Keep lids closed on dumpsters and recycle containers.
- Maintain storm drainage systems and permanent stormwater BMPs (visit www.abilenestormwater.com for information about maintenance and training).

SPILLS & LEAKS

- If a spill occurs, control, contain, and clean up immediately using dry cleanup practices. Clean up and dispose of dirty absorbent properly. If a spill reaches the storm drain system, notify Abilene's Stormwater Services by calling 325-437-4937

MATERIAL STORAGE, LOADING & HANDLING

- Cover and provide secondary containment for materials and containers stored outside.
- Do not load or unload materials near a storm drain inlet or drainage ditch.
- Do not store mulch, soil, or other landscaping materials in the street or on other impervious surfaces. If they must be stored on impervious surfaces, ensure that they are covered and contained.



LAWN & VEGETATION MAINT.

- Mulch-mow grass whenever possible.
- Sweep grass clippings onto landscaped areas; do not allow them to remain on the pavement.
- Do not allow irrigation system to over-water; adjust sprinklers accordingly.
- Avoid broadcast spraying pesticides. Avoid spraying pesticides or fertilizers within 50 feet of any surface water or storm drain.
- Follow all manufacturers' recommendations related to the handling of pesticides and fertilizers.

OUTDOOR WASHING & CLEANING

- Use dry cleanup methods, such as a broom and dust pan, whenever possible.
- Direct water used for washing ambient dust and dirt to landscape for infiltration if allowed by local ordinance.
- Collect all water that contains soap, and dispose of it in a sanitary sewer.
- Wash all vehicles and mowers in a designated washing area that drains to the sanitary sewer, such as a commercial or designated car-washing facility. If this is not available, mowers (only) may be washed to an area that discharges to a grassy or vegetated buffer or infiltration area.

DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

- Use inlet protection devices or covers to protect any storm drain inlets during construction.
- Consider designing a rain garden, and direct roof drains to these areas.
- Incorporate swales and berms to your landscape so that runoff is contained.
- Consider using bricks, gravel, and other porous materials for driveways and walkways.